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MERRIMACK COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT 1977



REPORT
of the
COMMISSIONERS
of
MERRIMACK
COUNTY

Together with the
Reports of the County
Treasurer, Clerk of Court,
Sheriff, County Attorney,
Nursing Home Administrator,
Corrections Superintendent,
Farm, Physician, Chaplains,
and Auditors

FROM

January 1, 1977

TO

December 31, 1977

IN MEMORIAM



DR. J. KENNETH McLEOD

(Ken Williams, Concord Monitor)

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(Cover Photo by John P. Clemons)



1977 COUNTY OFFICERS. Seated (left to right): Richard D. Hanson, Treasurer; Albert M. Ayotte, Commissioner; Edna C. McKenna, Commissioner; Peter J. Spaulding, Chairman, Board of Commissioners. Standing (left to right): Ronald D. Daniels, Jr., Sheriff; Marjorie Gatherum, Deputy Register of Deeds; Kathleen M. R. Guay, Register of Deeds; Honorable Donald W. Cushing, Judge of Probate; Carol E. Ingraham, Register of Probate; Patricia Fraser, Deputy Register of Probate; and John C. Boeckeler, County Attorney.

1977-1978 COUNTY OFFICERS

COMMISSIONERS.....	Albert M. Ayotte, Franklin Edna C. McKenna, Concord Peter J. Spaulding, Hopkinton
TREASURER.....	Richard D. Hanson, Bow
COORDINATOR.....	Rodney E. Tenney, Concord
COUNTY ATTORNEY.....	John C. Boeckeler, Concord
SHERIFF.....	Ronald D. Daniels, Jr., Hopkinton
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT.....	Henry Dowst, Jr., Epsom
JUDGE OF PROBATE.....	Hon. Donald W. Cushing, Franklin
REGISTER OF PROBATE.....	Carol E. Ingraham, Concord
REGISTER OF DEEDS.....	Kathleen M. Roy Guay, Concord
MEDICAL REFEREES.....	Paul S. Shaw, M.D., Concord Robert J. Morin, M.D., Franklin

MERRIMACK COUNTY NURSING HOME

ADMINISTRATOR.....	Robert F. Lethbridge, Boscawen
ASST. ADMINISTRATORS....	Mary E. Jelley, R.N., Concord Marjorie Burris, R.N., Concord
HOME PHYSICIAN.....	J. Kenneth McLeod, M.D., Penacook
ASST. PHYSICIAN.....	Robert J. Morin, M.D., Franklin
CHAPLAINS.....	Rev. Paul Lyons, Northfield Fr. Paul Morrisette, Franklin
FARM MANAGER.....	Walter R. Lampron, Boscawen

MERRIMACK COUNTY CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATOR.....	Edmund A. Cox, Penacook
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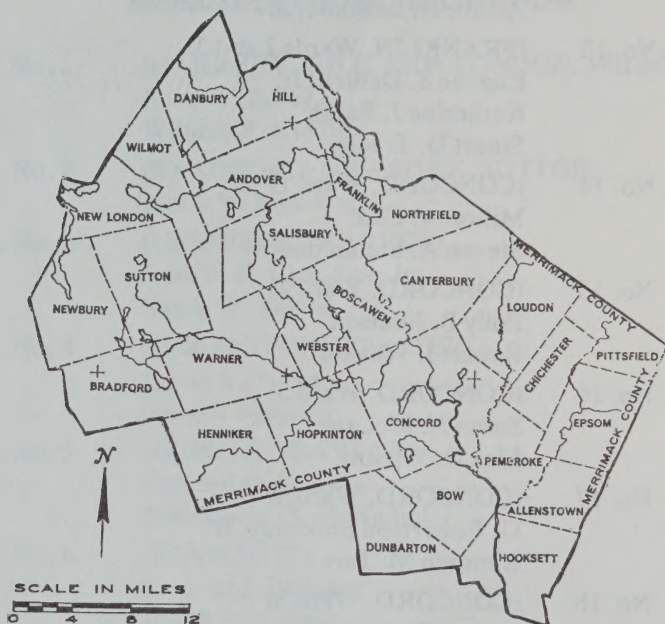
1977-1978**MERRIMACK COUNTY DELEGATION**

Dist. No. 1	(DANBURY, HILL, NEW LONDON, WILMOT) James L. Foley William F. Kidder
Dist. No. 2	(BRADFORD, NEWBURY, SUTTON) James V. Bibbo, Jr.
Dist. No. 3	(HENNIKER, WARNER) John P. H. Chandler, Jr. Susan W. Pelton
Dist. No. 4	(HOPKINTON, WEBSTER) David B. Packard Irene J. Shepard
Dist. No. 5	(BOW, DUNBARTON) Richard D. Hanson Bernadette O. McNichol
Dist. No. 6	(HOOKSETT) Laurent J. Boucher Judith Ann Hess Doris J. Riley
Dist. No. 7	(ALLENSTOWN, PEMBROKE) Edgar G. Bellerose Mark M. Bodi Ovila Gamache Robert E. Plourde
Dist. No. 8	(EPSOM, PITTSFIELD) Kenard F. Ayles Kenneth E. Stockman
Dist. No. 9	(CANTERBURY, CHICHESTER, LOUDON) John O. Cate Edwin L. Waters
Dist. No. 10	(BOSCAWEN, NORTHFIELD) Donna T. MacIvor George R. Mullin Doris L. Thompson
Dist. No. 11	(ANDOVER, SALISBURY) James A. Humphrey

- Dist. No. 12 (FRANKLIN, Ward 1)
Arthur H. LaBonte, Sr.
- Dist. No. 13 (FRANKLIN, Wards 2 and 3)
Eugene S. Daniell, Jr.
Katherine J. Ralph
Stuart D. Trachy
- Dist. No. 14 (CONCORD, Ward 1)
Milton A. Cate
Steven A. Stefanides
- Dist. No. 15 (CONCORD, Ward 2)
Polly B. Johnson
Robert J. Watson
- Dist. No. 16 (CONCORD, Ward 3)
Susan N. McLane
Max D. Wiviott
- Dist. No. 17 (CONCORD, Ward 4)
G. Robertson Blakeney, Jr.
Kenneth M. Tarr
- Dist. No. 18 (CONCORD, Ward 5)
Arthur W. Perkins
Wayne S. Rich
- Dist. No. 19 (CONCORD, Ward 6)
Maura Carroll
Ernest J. Valliere
- Dist. No. 20 (CONCORD, Ward 7)
Nancy B. Pardy
Harold L. Rice
- Dist. No. 21 (CONCORD, Ward 8)
Charles E. Pratt
Gerald R. Smith

MERRIMACK COUNTY

Population: 90,964*
Area: 934 square miles



City/Town	1977 Population	% Increase Since 1970	City/Town	1977 Population	% Increase Since 1970
Allenstown	3,646	33.5	Hooksett	6,930	30.6
Andover	1,288	13.2	Hopkinton	3,352	11.5
Boscawen	3,119	10.1	Loudon	2,062	20.8
Bow	3,389	36.7	Newbury	757	48.7
Bradford	941	38.6	New London	2,275	33.5
Canterbury	1,025	14.5	Northfield	2,524	15.1
Chichester	1,295	19.6	Pembroke	4,945	16.1
Concord	31,877	16.7	Pittsfield	2,499	-.7
Danbury	613	25.4	Salisbury	709	20.4
Dunbarton	1,040	26.1	Sutton	906	41.1
Epsom	2,004	36.4	Warner	1,870	29.8
Franklin	7,603	4.3	Webster	836	22.9
Henniker	2,265	24.9	Wilmot	622	20.5
Hill	572	27.1	TOTAL	90,964	18.8

(* Office of Comprehensive Planning, 1977 Population Figures)

MINUTES OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY DELEGATION**MERRIMACK COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING
AND DELEGATION MEETING
Administration Building
Concord, New Hampshire**

March 11, 1977

A meeting of the Merrimack County Delegation was held in the County Administration Building at 1:30 p.m., March 11, 1977. The following listed Representatives were present: James L. Foley, William F. Kidder, James V. Bibbo Jr., John P. H. Chandler, Jr., Susan W. Pelton, David B. Packard, Irene J. Shepard, Richard D. Hanson, Bernadette O. McNichol, Laurent J. Boucher, Judith Ann Hess, Ovila Gamache, Kenard F. Ayles, Kenneth E. Stockman, John O. Cate, Donna T. MacIvor, George R. Mullin, James A. Humphrey, Arthur H. LaBonte, Eugene S. Daniell, Jr., Katherine J. Ralph, Stuart B. Trachy, Steven A. Stefanides, Polly B. Johnson, Susan N. McLane, Max D. Wiviott, Kenneth M. Tarr, Arthur W. Perkins, Wayne S. Rich, Maura Carroll, Ernest J. Valliere. Absent: Representatives: Doris J. Riley, Edgar G. Bellerose, Mark M. Bodi, Robert E. Plourde, Edwin L. Waters, Doris L. Thompson, Milton A. Cate, Robert J. Watson, G. Robertson Blakeney, Harold L. Rice, Charles E. Pratt, and Gerald R. Smith.

Chairman Kidder officiated.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved that the Public Hearing on Use of Revenue Sharing Funds by Merrimack County be held at this time. Rep. LaBonte seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

The Public Hearing regarding use of revenue sharing funds was conducted by Chairman Kidder. Coordinator Rodney E. Tenney explained the new regulations and the proposed use of the revenue sharing funds. The Public Hearing was closed.

MOTION: Rep. LaBonte moved, Rep. Boucher seconded the adoption of the Merrimack County Budget Resolution as recommended by the Executive Committee. (Budget Resolution attached)

The Chairman explained the procedure: The whole budget

would be discussed item by item and then the budget would be voted upon as a whole.

MOTION: Rep. Daniell, Jr. moved, seconded by Rep. Ralph that the Administrator's salary at the Nursing Home be increased to \$21,000.

On roll call vote 13 yeas, 14 nays, MOTION LOST.

YEAS: Pelton, Hanson, Gamache, Mullin, LaBonte, Daniell, Ralph, Trachy, Stefanides, McLane, Wiviott, Tarr, Valliere.

NAYS: Foley, Bibbo, Chandler, Packard, Shepard, McNichol, Boucher, Hess, Ayles, Stockman, John Cate, Johnson, Rich, Carroll.

MOTION: Rep. Daniell Jr., moved seconded by Rep. Trachy that the Administrator's Salary at the Nursing Home be increased to \$20,500.

Rep. Hess amended the motion, seconded by Rep. LaBonte that the Administrator's Salary at the Nursing Home be set at \$20,000. Limited debate was called for by Rep. Boucher, seconded and voted in the affirmative. Roll Call vote was called for on the amendment. MOTION CARRIED. yeas 19, nays 8.

YEAS: Foley, Bibbo, pelton, Packard, Hanson, McNichols, Hess, Gamache, Ayles, Mullin, Humphry, LaBonte, Daniell, Ralph, Stefanides, Wiviott, Tarr, Carroll, Valliere.

NAYS: Chandler, Shepard, Boucher, Stockman, John Cate, Johnson, McLane, Rich.

The original motion as amended carried on voice vote.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, seconded by Rep. Humphrey that under the Corrections Department (item 11, page 3 of the Budget Resolution) Personel \$197,763 reduced by \$8,945.56, Operating Expense \$41,692 be reduced by \$3,000. Rep. Trachy requested limited debate seconded it was voted in the affirmative. MOTION LOST.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded that Nursing Services (item page 4, d.) \$1,027,473 be reduced \$5,000.

Rep. Boucher requested limited debate, LaBonte seconded, Vote carried. MOTION LOST.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded that the Chairman of the Commissioner's salary be changed to \$3,000. MOTION LOST.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded (item 20, page 6) Salary Increase of \$40,000 be cut to \$20,000. MOTION LOST.

The Budget Resolution as amended was adopted on voice vote.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded the adoption of Resolution allocating Revenue Sharing Funds for Calendar Year 1977 as follows:

Be it resolved that the revenue sharing funds available to Merrimack County be allocated in the 1977 budget as follows:

Administration Building Debt Service	\$50,000
Nursing Home Addition Debt Service	50,000
Social Service grants	50,000
Corrections Department Salaries	58,000
	<hr/>
	\$208,000

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded the Resolution Obligating Antirecession Fiscal Assistance Aid as follows:

Be it resolved that the amount of \$1,327 received by Merrimack County under the provision of Title II of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976 and any further receipts received under these provisions be obligated for use in support of salaries paid to current positions in the Merrimack County Welfare Department.

Resolution adopted on voice vote.

Rep. Hess inquired into the action of the Space Committee. A brief report was given by Rep. McLane and Coordinator Tenney. Administrator Robert F. Lethbridge and Richard Cadarette informed the delegation on the Merrimack County Home construction project.

MOTION: Rep. Bibbo moved, Rep. Stefanides seconded that the Chairman appoint a committee to study the feasibility of solid waste disposal on a County-wide basis. MOTION CARRIED.

Rep. Stefanides suggested to the Chairman that next year's delegation meetings on the total budget be held in the evening rather than the afternoon.

MOTION: Rep. Chandler moved, Rep. Humphrey seconded

adjournment.

Meeting adjourned on vote 4:10 p.m.

Polly B. Johnson,
CLERK

MERRIMACK COUNTY DELEGATION MEETING
State House, Room 105
Concord, New Hampshire

June 29, 1977

A meeting of the Merrimack County Delegation was held at the State House in Room 105 June 29, 1977 at 9:30 a.m. Formal attendance was not recorded but a large attendance was present.

Chairman William Kidder officiated. He called upon Peter Spaulding, Chairman of the commissioners, to explain the need for calling a meeting.

Chairman Spaulding said that the Commissioners would like the approval of the delegation of a plan, work of which would be put out to bid, to improve the woodland in Boscawen.

After discussion:

MOTION: Representative Milton Cate moved, Representative Wayne Rich seconded that the Merrimack County Board of Commissioners be authorized to sell approximately 125,000 board feet of mature timber located on county property in Boscawen and that in addition to funds otherwise appropriated the amount of \$4,000 be appropriated, \$1,000 from County funds and \$3,000 from the federal Forestry Incentive Program, for the purpose of thinning hardwood pole stands on said property. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Polly B. Johnson,
CLERK

MERRIMACK COUNTY DELEGATION MEETING
County Administration Building
Concord, N. H.

December 16, 1977

A Public Hearing was held at the Superior Court Chambers December 16, 1977 convening at 2:15 p.m. with Chairman Kidder of the Merrimack County Delegation presiding. He read the Public Notice.

Commissioner Chairman Peter Spaulding gave a Budget Report for 1978 from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Spaulding cited two major items of concern:

- 1.) Proposed recommendation of \$112,000 salary increases for 1978 to bring County salaries in parity with State Employees and elected officials.
- 2.) Board of Commissioners recommended \$50,000 for new court facilities.

Commissioner Spaulding read into the record a letter of December 14, 1977 from Judge William W. Keller regarding the need for court facilities.

Considerable discussion ensued in reference to the needs of various departments with Merrimack County. There was also public concern registered on the continuous property tax escalation for Programs.

Several attorneys were present appealing for more adequate court room space in order to accommodate the large backlog of trial cases pending.

Hearing closed at 4:00 p.m.

Polly B. Johnson, Clerk

MERRIMACK COUNTY DELEGATION MEETING
Superior Court Chamber
Concord, N. H.

December 16, 1977

The Merrimack County Delegation met in the Superior Court

Chambers at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present: William F. Kidder presiding; Richard D. Hanson, Treasurer, Polly B. Johnson, Clerk, **Present:** James L. Foley, John P. H. Chandler, Jr., David B. Packard, Irene J. Shepard, Bernadette O. McNichol, Laurent J. Boucher, Vice Chairman, Judith Ann Hess, Doris J. Riley, John O. Cate, Edwin L. Waters, George R. Mullin, Eugene S. Daniell, Jr., Katharine J. Ralph, Stuart B. Trachy, Max D. Wivott, Kenneth M. Tarr, Wayne S. Rich, and Ernest J. Valliere.

Motion: Representative Daniell moved, Representative Hess seconded the adoption of the following **Resolution:**

Resolved, that, it being anticipated that at least three million two hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) will be needed during the fiscal year ending December 31, 1978 to meet the demands upon the County Treasury, which there shall be insufficient money to meet, the Treasurer is hereby authorized to borrow not exceeding three million two hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) in anticipation of taxes during said year pursuant to RSA 29:8. **Motion carried.**

Motion: Representative Tarr moved, seconded by Representative Valliere the adoption of the following **Resolution:**

Resolved, that until appropriations for expenses of Merrimack County for the year 1978 are made, departments and agencies are authorized to continue, in 1978, at rates of expenditures authorized for 1977. **Motion carried.**

An announcement was made by the Chairman that an Executive Committee meeting will be held Tuesday next, December 20, 1977 at 1:00 p.m.

Representative Wivott inquired as to the time for the County Delegation adoption of the budget.

Chairman announced January 30th as the time schedule for presentation of the Budget to the County Delegation.

Representative Arthur H. LaBonte's resignation from the General Court required a replacement on the Executive Committee.

Recess occurred for the Democrats to Caucus to fill the vacancy.

Representative Daniell reported their decision to nominate Representative Stuart B. Trachy to the Executive Committee.

Motion: Representative Rich moved, Representative Hanson seconded that the delegation accept Representative Daniell's recommendation that Representative Trachy replace Repre-

sentative LaBonte as a member of the Executive Committee.
Motion carried.

Commissioner McKenna invited everyone to attend the Annual Christmas Party Monday evening at the Merrimack County Home. There will be a special dedication at 7:00 and hopefully those planning to attend will arrive early and participate in the Caroling through the halls.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Polly B. Johnson, Clerk

1977

MERRIMACK COUNTY BUDGET RESOLUTION

I. Be it resolved by the Merrimack County Convention duly convened that the sums hereinafter detailed in this resolution are hereby appropriated to be paid out of the treasury of the county for the purposes specified for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1977.

1. Delegation		\$ 5,000
2. Administration		
Personnel	\$43,375	
Operating Expenses	10,100	
Other:		
Health Insurance	12,000	
Retirement	12,500	
Social Security	22,400	
Insurance-Workmen's		
Comp.	2,500	
Total		\$ 102,875
3. Treasurer's Department		
Personnel	\$22,494	
Operating Expenses	5,600	
Other:		
New Equipment	200	
Maintenance Agreement	1,350	
Total		\$ 29,644
4. Maintenance Department - Courthouse		
Personnel	\$22,519	
Operating Expenses	7,800	
Other:		
Electricity	17,500	
Fuel	18,000	
Insurance	3,000	
Total		\$ 68,819

5. Register of Deeds

Personnel	\$65,468	
Operating Expenses	6,977	
Other:		
Printing and Binding	25,870	
New Equipment	1,200	
Total		\$ 99,515

6. Register of Probate

Personnel	\$6,709	
Operating Expenses	1,350	
Other:		
Insurance	1,000	
Microfilming & Equipment	7,000	
Printing and Binding	6,000	
Communications	2,200	
Total		\$ 24,259

7. County Attorney

Personnel	\$22,000	
Operating Expenses	5,600	
Other:		
Grant Match	2,000	
Total		\$ 29,600

8. Welfare Department

Personnel	\$28,736	
Operating Expenses	736	
Other:		
Food Stamp Program-Bond	500	
Welfare Direct Aid	28,000	
Old Age Assistance	5,000	
Old Age Assistance - APTD	15,250	
Nursing Home Care - State	348,000	
Nursing Home Care - County	75,000	
Care & Board of Children	154,000	
Communication	1,020	
Travel	3,000	
Soldiers Aid	15,000	
Total		\$ 674,242

9. Sheriff's Department		
Personnel	\$112,017	
Operating Expenses	6,500	
Other:		
Vehicle Replacement	7,000	
Fees to State Officials	6,000	
Extraditions	3,000	
Auto Maintenance	7,000	
Insurance	7,600	
Dispatch	13,000	
Total		\$ 162,117
10. Dispatch System		
Personnel	\$32,983	
Other:		
Communications	5,200	
Total		\$ 38,183
11. Corrections Department		
Personnel	\$197,763	
Operating Expenses	41,692	
Other:		
Meals & Board for Inmates	31,550	
Heat and Lights	11,900	
Total		\$ 281,905
12. Medical Referee		\$ 11,000
13. Superior Court		
Personnel	\$97,126	
Operating Expenses	21,250	
Other:		
Jury Payroll	64,000	
State Payroll	6,000	
Referees and Masters	20,000	
Stenographers	38,000	
Clerk's Retirement	1,600	
New Equipment	2,024	
Total		\$ 250,000
14. Nursing Home		
a. Administration		

Personnel	\$85,341	
Operating Expenses	19,075	
Other:		
Health Insurance	78,000	
Retirement	35,000	
Social Security	100,000	
Insurance	<u>31,000</u>	
Total		\$ 348,416
b. Purchasing		
Personnel	\$22,812	
Operating Expenses	<u>3,750</u>	
Total		\$ 26,562
c. Dietary		
Personnel	\$150,140	
Operating Expenses	32,500	
Other:		
Inmate Labor	4,000	
Food	<u>260,000</u>	
Total		\$ 446,640
d. Nursing Services		
Personnel	\$1,027,473	
Operating Expenses	16,000	
Other:		
Replacement Equipment	<u>500</u>	
Total		\$1,043,973
e. Plant Operations		
Personnel	\$135,843	
Operating Expenses	16,200	
Other:		
Vehicle Replacement	4,400	
Electricity	50,000	
Gas	12,000	
Care of Equipment	16,000	
Fuel	80,000	
Equipment	<u>10,000</u>	
Total		\$ 318,443

f. Waste Treatment		
Operating Expenses	<u>\$9,000</u>	
Total		\$ 9,000
g. Laundry and Linen		
Personnel	\$86,105	
Operating Expenses	<u>34,000</u>	
Other:		
Replacement Equipment	<u>850</u>	
Total		\$ 120,995
h. Housekeeping		
Personnel	\$113,124	
Operating Expenses	<u>16,100</u>	
Total		\$ 129,224
i. Physicians		
Personnel	\$21,270	
Operating Expenses	<u>1,500</u>	
Other:		
Equipment	500	
Purchased Drugs	50,000	
Physicals	<u>3,000</u>	
Total		\$ 76,270
j. Rehabilitation/Recreation		
Personnel	\$34,893	
Operating Expenses	<u>2,000</u>	
Other:		
Therapist Consultant	10,400	
Services to Residents	<u>18,000</u>	
Total		\$ 65,293
k. Social Service		
Personnel	\$12,812	
Operating Expenses	<u>1,000</u>	
Total		\$ 13,812
Total Nursing Home		\$2,598,588
15. Farm		
Personnel	\$38,305	
Operating Expenses	<u>9,500</u>	

Other:		
Feed	14,500	
Taxes	9,000	
Special Projects	500	
Insurance	3,810	
Gas/Oil	2,100	
Seed/Fertilizer/Spray	<u>6,000</u>	
Total		\$ 83,715
16. Cooperative Extension Service		\$ 67,809
17. Grants		
Central New Hampshire Com-		
munity Mental Health		
Services	\$40,000	
Purchased Mental Health		
Services	1,000	
Community Action Program:		
Meals on Wheels	5,500	
Transportation	5,500	
Visiting Nurse Association	15,500	
Retired Senior Volunteer		
Program	4,000	
Merrimack County Conserva-		
tion District	<u>6,000</u>	
Total		\$ 77,500
18. Contingency		\$ 30,000
19. Debt Service		\$ 895,199
20. Salary Increase		\$ 40,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATION		\$5,569,970

II. Be it further resolved that the salaries for the following positions be established as indicated effective July 1, 1977:

Chairman, Board of	
Commissioners	\$ 3,260
Commissioners	3,000
Treasurer	3,260
County Attorney	15,000
Sheriff	18,700
Register of Deeds	16,535

III. Be it further resolved that the sums hereinafter detailed are

hereby adopted as estimates of revenue from the sources indicated:

1. General Government

Superior Court	\$40,000
Register of Deeds	90,000
Sheriff:	
Writ Fees	70,000
Dispatch System	38,183
Welfare:	
Board & Care of	
Children	8,500
Direct Aid	1,000
Soldiers Aid	900
Old Age Assistance	1,800
Food Stamps	4,600
Revenue Sharing	208,000
Corrections-Miscellaneous	5,000
Interest	120,000

Total \$ 587,983

2. County Farm

Sale of Milk	\$45,00
Sale of Livestock	2,500
Sale of Produce	1,000
Sale of Food to Home	25,000
Miscellaneous	1,000

Total \$ 74,500

3. Home and Hospital

Social Security	\$400,635
Welfare	1,401,272
Private	20,000
Maintenance	35,000
Internal Income	40,000
Miscellaneous	7,250

Total \$1,904,157

4. Prior Year Surplus

-0-

TOTAL REVENUE \$2,566,640

IV. Be it further resolved that, the total appropriation being in excess of the total estimated revenues in the amount \$3,003,330

the treasurer shall issue his warrant to the several towns and cities in the county for this amount pursuant to RSA 29:11.

- V. Be it further resolved in accordance with RSA 24:14 that no transfers of appropriations shall be made between departments without the approval of the Executive Committee of the County Convention.
- VI. This resolution shall take effect upon passage.
-

REPORT OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Despite raw temperatures and a persistent drizzle on September 24, open house for the new 204-bed J. Kenneth McLeod wing of the Merrimack County Nursing Home, the turnout and the enthusiasm generated left no doubt that this was the county's greatest achievement in 1977. A crowd of interested visitors, distinguished guests and dedicated staff were on hand for speeches by the Commissioners and other officials, ribbon cutting ceremonies and tours of the new facility. The festivities were both an appropriate conclusion to over 20 months of planning, construction and extra-hours efforts by all those involved and a christening for a project which we feel adequately represents our commitment to the county's elderly. As a highlight, this project also received some national recognition when Merrimack County was presented with a National Achievement Award for "Housing for the Infirm Elderly" by the National Association of Counties.

In preparation for the expanded nursing facility, January of 1977 saw the completion and dedication of a County Wastewater Treatment Plant in Boscawen. This plant will serve a capacity of 500 patients; treating up to 87,000 gallons of water per day on a 365-day basis. We were fortunate in that 75 percent of the funds for this project were provided by the Environmental Protection Agency and 20 percent were provided by the N. H. Water Supply & Pollution Control Commission.

Not all the focus for '77 was related to the nursing home. In January, we opened the first full-time, fully-staffed county attorney's office in the county courthouse. The office is now better equipped to deal with current cases; has reduced the backlog; is providing more assistance to local police departments in criminal prosecutions and is more accessible to the public.

In August, a Civil Preparedness Coordinator was hired by the county with CETA funds. He is involved in developing a county-wide emergency preparedness program in conjunction with the state and our county's cities and towns; securing federal funds and surplus equipment for the use of municipal protection services and providing emergency training and assistance to the cities and towns.

August also marked the end of our struggle to obtain reimbursement from the State of N. H. for operating the Eagle Convalescent Center in Concord on their behalf during 1975 and early 1976. After over a year of joint effort between the Commissioner's Office and the County Delegation - and ultimately the introduction of a special

bill in the Legislature - by Representative William Kidder of New London, we finally received a check for \$254,045 in full repayment.

On a more somber note, the county experienced a substantial loss in 1977. Dr. Kenneth McLeod, who had served the Merrimack County Nursing Home faithfully as chief physician for the past 38 years, died in October. The new wing of the nursing home, appropriately dedicated to Dr. McLeod, will stand as a reminder of his service to the county.

Initiation of new programs, oversight of existing programs and oversight of the budgetary process are primary functions of the Commissioners. As such, we encourage communication between citizens and county government in our efforts to maintain a balance between cost, efficiency and services. Commissioner's meetings are held every Wednesday at the Administration Building and the Nursing Home, with special meetings scheduled when necessary. In the fall, public road hearings on the budget are held to give the public an opportunity to review and question proposed expenditures. In addition, as a special service to the citizens, we maintain a Speaker's Bureau to make officials of county government available to civic, educational and community groups to speak on county government. We urge the public to take advantage of these services and review the following reports to better familiarize themselves with the operations of county government.

MERRIMACK COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS

TREASURER'S REPORT

To the Citizens of Merrimack County,

Merrimack County has retained its triple A financial rating despite unemployment and inflation which have hurt the financial stability of other areas. A triple A rating is the highest rating a unit of government can offer investors in the bond market. It insures a sound, stable investment for buyers which in turn attracts favorable interest rates for county borrowing. Good management at both the county and local level have contributed to our sound financial status.

For your review, following is the annual report of our auditors detailing the county's income and expenses for 1977.

Richard D. Hanson
TREASURER

REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Board of County Commissioners
County of Merrimack, New Hampshire
County Court House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Gentlemen:

We have examined the financial statements of the various funds of the County of Merrimack, New Hampshire, for the year ended December 31, 1977. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The County does not presently maintain a record of all its general fixed assets and accordingly, a statement of general fixed assets, required by generally accepted accounting principles, is not included in its financial statements.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present

fairly the financial position of such funds of the County of Merrimack, New Hampshire at December 31, 1977, and the results of operations of such funds for the year ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis.

Respectfully submitted,
David L. Connors
Certified Public Accountant
JOHN E. RICH & COMPANY
Accountants and Auditors

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
COMBINED BALANCE SHEET — ALL FUNDS
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1977**

	General Fund	Superior Court	Capital Projects Bond Fund	Federal Re- venue Sharing Funds	Property and Equipment Funds	General Long-Term Debt
Assets						
Cash	\$ 25,381	\$ 14,286	\$516,404	\$ 20,574	\$	\$
Accounts Receivable	765,162				9,008,795	
Property and Equipment						6,730,000
Amount Required to be provided in the Future for Retirement of Debt						\$6,730,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 790,543	\$ 14,286	\$ 516,404	\$ 20,574	\$9,008,795	\$6,730,000
Liabilities and Fund Balances						
Liabilities						
Accounts Payable	\$ 395,687	\$ 14,286	\$	\$	\$	\$
Accrued Expenses	3,627					
Unexpended Balance of Appropriations	5,317					
Bonds Payable						6,730,000
Total Liabilities	404,631	14,286				6,730,000
Fund Balances	385,912		516,404	20,574	9,008,795	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 790,543	\$ 14,286	\$ 516,404	\$ 20,574	\$9,008,795	\$6,730,000

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1977**

ASSETS

Cash

Bank of New Hampshire	\$ 23,276	
County Extension Service	1,439	
Franklin National Bank	316	
Petty Cash Funds	350	
	<hr/>	
Total Cash		\$ 25,381

Accounts Due the County

Reimbursement, Sewerage Treatment Facility	18,820	
Patients, County Nursing Home	501,611	
Commissioners' Office	241,224	
Other	3,507	
	<hr/>	
Total Receivables		765,162

TOTAL ASSETS

\$790,543

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$395,687	
Accrued Payroll Deductions	3,627	
Unexpended Balance of Special Appropriation, County Extension Service	1,439	
Register of Probate Salary	3,878	
	<hr/>	
Total Current Liabilities		\$404,631

Fund Balance

385,912

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

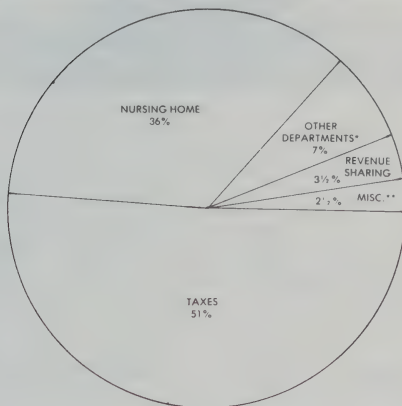
\$790,543

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Fund Balance, January 1, 1977			\$ 91,864
Non-Operating Changes			
Additions			
Reduction of 1976 Accounts Payable	\$ 1,772		
Reimbursement for Guards	<u>2,401</u>		
Total Additions		\$ 4,173	
Deductions			
Amount Needed to Balance Trial Balance	98		
Other	<u>55</u>		
Total Deductions		<u>153</u>	
Net Non-Operating Additions to Fund Balance			<u>4,020</u>
Adjusted Balance			95,884
From Current Year's Operations			
Revenues	5,919,641		
Expenditures	<u>5,629,613</u>		
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures			<u>290,028</u>
Fund Balance, December 31, 1977			\$385,912

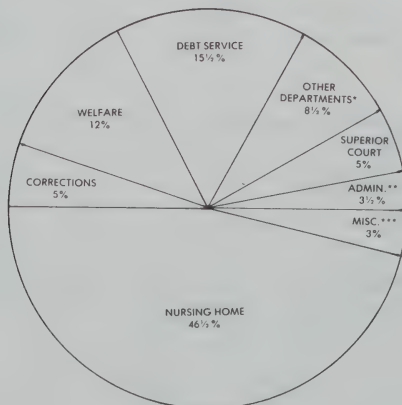
COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977

	1977	
	Budget	Actual
General Government		
Taxes	\$3,003,330	\$3,003,330
Superior Court, Fines and Forfeits	40,000	56,635
Register of Deeds	90,000	145,835
Sheriff's Writ Fees	70,000	57,378
Dispatch System	38,183	37,966
Sheriff, Manpower Salary		1,263
Probate, State Funds	6,939	6,908
Assistant County Attorney, Salary	13,000	13,180
Board and Care of Children	8,500	10,032
Direct Aid	1,000	2,971
Soldiers' Aid	900	891
Old Age Assistance	1,800	4,090
Anti-Recession Aid		4,725
Federal Payments in Lieu of Taxes		2,019
Food Stamp Program Income	4,600	3,422
Federal Revenue Sharing Funds	208,000	208,000
Treasurer's Department		952
Interest Income on Certificates and Savings	120,000	135,993
Total, General Government	3,606,252	3,695,590
Nursing Home Revenue		
Gross Revenues	1,904,157	2,194,171
Less: Revenue Charges to Patients that are County Responsibility		58,602
Total Nursing Home Revenue	1,904,157	2,135,569
Corrections Department	7,951	2,951
Arm Revenue	74,500	85,531
TOTAL REVENUE	\$5,592,860	\$5,919,641

SOURCES OF COUNTY REVENUE

*Other Departments: Farm, Sheriff and Dispatch, Register of Deeds, Superior Court, Welfare and Register of Probate.

**Miscellaneous: Interest Income, Treasurer's Department, Corrections, LEAA(County Attorney), Anti-Recession Aid and Federal Payments.

WHERE YOUR COUNTY TAX DOLLAR GOES

*Other Departments: Sheriff's Dept. and Dispatch, Farm, Register of Deeds, Register of Probate, County Attorney and Medical Referee.

**Administration: Commissioner's Office, Treasurer, Delegation and Courthouse Maintenance.

***Miscellaneous: Affiliated Services.

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

	1977	
	Budget	Actual
General Government		
Administrative	\$ 111,725	\$ 111,196
Treasurer's Department	29,533	27,667
Delegation	5,000	3,651
County Attorney	41,594	41,332
Register of Deeds	100,185	99,751
Register of Probate	45,828	42,921
Sheriff's Department	163,547	162,569
Dispatch System	38,768	35,339
Medical Referee	11,000	9,605
Maintenance of Court House	69,209	65,452
Superior Court	250,000	294,865
Public Welfare	674,852	681,525
Other	666,362	669,208
Total Expenditures, General Government	2,207,603	2,245,081
Nursing Home	3,004,729	3,002,370
Corrections Department	287,913	288,921
Farm	92,615	93,241
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$5,592,860	\$5,629,613

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND — GENERAL GOVERNMENT
DETAILS OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Administrative		
Salaries	\$ 36,673	\$ 36,673
Special Services	9,389	9,389
Employees' Social Security	22,876	23,035
Employees' Blue Cross Insurance	12,848	12,848
Employees' Retirement	14,830	14,573
Insurance, Workmen's Compensation	3,183	3,183
Outside Services	1,984	1,984
Printing and Binding	1,205	1,205
Administration Supplies	1,158	1,132
Communications	5,014	5,014
Travel	2,101	2,101

Equipment Repairs	59	59
Equipment Rental	405	
Totals	<u>\$111,725</u>	<u>\$111,196</u>
Treasurer's Department		
Salaries	\$ 22,884	\$ 22,754
Outside Services	1,400	1,273
Printing	99	38
Supplies	2,000	822
Communications	1,000	910
Travel	600	453
Equipment Repairs	1,417	1,417
New Equipment	133	
Totals	<u>\$ 29,533</u>	<u>\$ 27,667</u>
Delegation	<u>\$ 5,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,651</u>
County Attorney		
Salary	\$ 34,441	\$ 34,441
Outside Services	567	567
Printing and Binding	832	618
Supplies	1,098	1,098
Communications	1,891	1,892
Travel	100	51
New Equipment	2,665	2,665
Totals	<u>\$ 41,594</u>	<u>\$ 41,332</u>
Register of Deeds		
Salaries	\$ 66,376	\$ 66,376
Outside Services	2,497	2,285
Printing and Binding	25,632	25,624
Supplies	549	501
Communications	2,780	2,780
Insurance	951	951
Equipment Repairs	200	106
New Equipment	1,200	1,128
Totals	<u>\$100,185</u>	<u>\$ 99,751</u>
Register of Probate		
Salary	\$ 7,076	\$ 7,076
Special Salary Account*	6,939	6,792
Outside Services	656	656
Microfilm and Office Equipment	20,030	20,030
Printing and Binding	4,434	3,192
Supplies	900	625
Communications	2,219	2,209
Insurance	1,374	1,374
Equipment Repairs	200	18
New Equipment	2,000	949
Totals	<u>\$ 45,828</u>	<u>\$ 42,921</u>
*Due to Fiscal Year Grant.		
Sheriff's Department		
Salaries	\$ 97,994	\$ 97,828
Special Salary	6,809	6,809
Special Services	3,855	3,855
Operating Expenses, Education and Training	414	414

Outside Services	400	318
Vehicle Replacement	7,267	7,267
Fees Paid to State Officials	5,100	4,859
Office Expense, Stationery Supplies	2,018	2,018
Office Expense, Dues and Subscriptions	300	194
Office Expense, Postage	1,876	1,876
Office Expense, Photography	727	727
Office Expense, Extraditions and Travel	1,604	1,604
Communication, Telephone	3,995	3,995
Dispatch Services	13,000	13,000
Auto Maintenance	7,000	6,617
Insurance	10,026	10,026
Equipment	1,162	1,162
Totals	<u>\$163,547</u>	<u>\$162,569</u>
Dispatch System		
Salaries	\$ 33,568	\$ 29,812
Communications	5,200	5,527
Totals	<u>\$ 38,768</u>	<u>\$ 35,339</u>
Medical Referee		
Salaries	\$	\$ 3,905
Special Services		4,105
Outside Services		794
Communications		664
Travel		137
Totals	<u>\$ 11,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,605</u>
Maintenance of Court House		
Salaries	\$ 20,716	\$ 19,938
Electricity	17,670	17,670
Water	1,200	1,138
Fuel	18,000	17,551
Outside Services	5,223	5,278
Court House Supplies	2,400	1,778
Equipment Repairs	1,000	117
Insurance	3,000	1,982
Totals	<u>\$ 69,209</u>	<u>\$ 65,452</u>
Superior Court		
Salaries	\$ 97,126	\$104,307
Outside Services	3,500	14,621
Printing and Binding	2,000	4,922
Supplies	7,000	9,146
Jury Payrolls	64,000	67,644
State vs. Payroll	6,000	16,114
Referees and Masters	20,000	25,797
Court Stenographers' Fees	38,000	39,668
Communications	7,000	8,072
Travel	500	346
Clerk's Retirement Plan	1,600	1,999
Equipment Repairs	500	1,095
Insurance	750	790
New Equipment	2,024	344
Totals	<u>\$250,000</u>	<u>\$294,865</u>

Public Welfare

Salaries	\$ 29,346	\$ 28,414
Printing and Binding	391	391
Supplies	200	140
Food Stamp Program	500	366
Soldiers' Aid	15,000	11,566
Welfare Direct Aid	34,750	38,845
Old Age Assistance	5,000	4,253
Old Age Assistance, APTD	20,122	24,713
Outside Intermediate Nursing Home Care	331,903	336,356
Nursing Home Care, County	75,000	75,000
Board and Care of Children	158,377	158,467
Communications	1,020	733
Travel	3,000	2,038
Equipment Repairs	243	243
Totals	\$674,852	\$681,525

Other

County Extension Service	\$ 67,809	\$ 67,809
Interest Paid, Tax Anticipation Notes	28,913	28,912
Interest Paid, Long-Term Notes	41,650	41,650
Concord Mental Health	40,000	40,000
Purchased Mental Health Service	1,000	—
Visiting Nurse Association	15,500	15,500
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	4,000	4,000
Merrimack County Conservation District	6,000	6,053
Community Action Program	11,000	11,000
Bond Principal Payment, Administration Building	50,000	50,000
Bond Principal Payment Hospital Improvements	30,000	30,000
Bond Principal Payment, 48 Bed Addition	70,000	70,000
Bond Principal Payment, 200 Bed Addition	275,000	275,000
Contingency	25,490	29,284
Totals	\$666,362	\$669,208

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND — NURSING HOME
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

	1977	
	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$1,904,157	\$2,194,171
Expenditures		
Administrative	349,321	342,685
Property and Related Expenses	381,636	381,635
Purchasing	26,952	23,967
Dietary	435,964	433,757
Nursing Services	1,078,959	1,078,297
Plant Operations	320,653	340,768
Waste Treatment Plant	9,000	7,874
Laundry and Linen	122,775	123,800
Housekeeping	131,954	126,354
Physicians and Drugs	76,270	75,787
Rehabilitation/Recreation	57,173	54,916
Social Services	14,072	12,530
Total Expenditures	3,004,729	3,002,370
Deficit	1,100,572	808,199
Less: Revenue Charges to Patients that are County Responsibility	—	58,602
Total Deficit	\$1,100,572	\$ 866,801

Certain expenditures related to opening of new addition may be reimbursed in the next few years, but that amount has not been estimated at this time.

Revenue		
Social Security	\$ 400,635	\$ 385,378
Welfare	1,401,272	1,687,340
Private	20,000	55,197
Maintenance	35,000	—
Medicine, Miscellaneous	7,250	21,672
Internal Income, Other	40,000	44,584
Totals	\$1,904,157	\$2,194,171

**DETAILS OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Administrative		
Salaries	\$ 79,725	\$ 79,725
Social Security Taxes	101,823	101,822
Employees' Group Insurance	70,370	64,674

Employees' Retirement	37,278	37,278
Outside Services	3,200	2,525
Office Supplies	6,000	5,433
Postage	1,300	981
Advertising and Public Relations	650	624
Communications	10,100	11,104
Licenses, Dues and Publications	475	437
Travel, Auto	2,300	2,223
Conferences and Education	1,700	1,526
Insurance	34,400	34,333
Totals	\$349,321	\$342,685
Property and Related Expenses		
Interest, Long-Term Debt	\$ 337,238	\$ 337,237
Interest, Short-Term Debt	44,398	44,398
Totals	\$ 381,636	\$ 381,635
Purchasing		
Salaries	\$ 23,202	\$ 22,768
Supplies	3,000	849
Equipment	750	350
Totals	\$ 26,952	\$ 23,967
Dietary		
Salaries	\$ 165,467	\$ 161,467
Supplies and Other Expenses	36,000	36,883
Purchased Food	233,997	235,112
New Equipment	500	295
Totals	\$ 435,964	\$ 433,757
Nursing Services		
Salaries	\$1,062,459	\$1,062,459
Supplies and Other Expenses	15,800	15,253
New Equipment	700	585
Totals	\$1,078,959	\$1,078,297
Plant Operations		
Salaries	\$ 130,403	\$ 130,394
Supplies	3,200	3,292
Electricity	57,754	66,406
Gas	5,590	5,588
Water	800	617
Fuel	71,520	81,790
Care of Grounds	3,081	3,081
Care of Equipment	11,303	12,447
Building Supplies	16,502	17,181
New Equipment	14,609	14,609
Vehicle Replacement	5,891	5,363
Totals	\$ 320,653	\$ 340,768
Waste Treatment Plant		
Electricity	\$ 5,400	\$ 3,238
Chemicals	650	427
Communications	100	565
Maintenance and Repairs	2,850	3,644
Totals	\$ 9,000	\$ 7,874

Laundry and Linen

Salaries	\$ 94,875	\$ 94,870
Supplies	15,430	16,514
Purchased Linens	11,620	11,656
New Equipment	850	760
Totals	\$ 122,775	\$ 123,800

Houskeeping

Salaries	\$ 115,854	\$ 112,276
Purchased Services	1,600	1,585
Supplies and Other Expenses	14,000	12,408
New Equipment	500	85
Totals	\$ 131,954	\$ 126,354

Physicians and Drugs

Salaries	\$ 20,023	\$ 20,023
Pharmacist	7,350	7,350
Physicals	3,000	2,264
Purchases, Drugs	41,897	42,050
Supplies	3,500	3,812
Equipment	500	288
Totals	\$ 76,270	\$ 75,787

Rehabilitation/Recreation

Salaries	\$ 31,373	\$ 31,255
Therapist Consultant	10,400	7,985
Supplies	1,500	1,276
Services for Residents	13,400	14,260
Equipment	500	140
Totals	\$ 57,173	\$ 54,916

Social Services

Salaries	\$ 13,072	\$ 12,512
Supplies	1,000	18
Totals	\$ 14,072	\$ 12,530

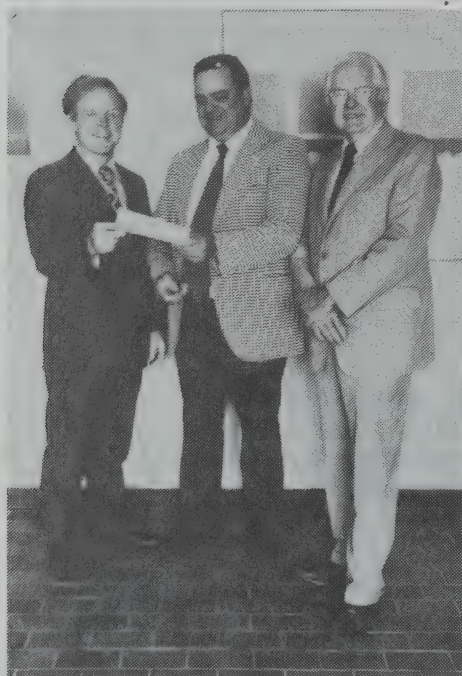
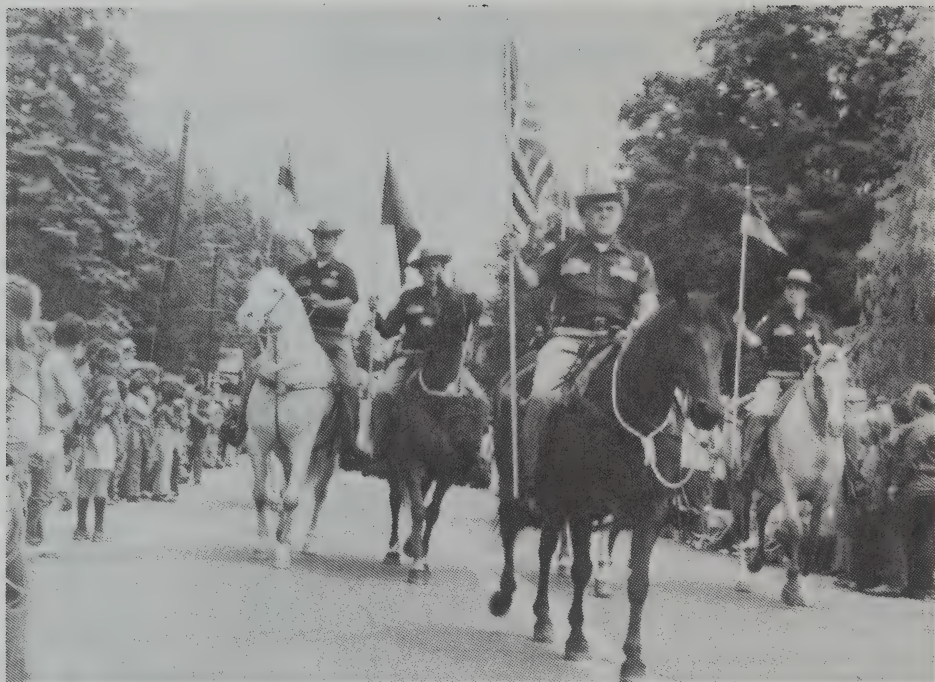
**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND — CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
DETAILS OF REVENUE AND EXPANDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Revenue

Miscellaneous	\$ 5,000	\$
Grant Income for Guards	2,951	2,951
Total Revenue	\$ 7,951	\$ 2,951

Operating Expenditures

Salaries	\$180,243	\$180,243
Social Security Taxes	10,452	10,451
Employees' Group Insurance	4,248	4,248



MERRIMACK COUNTY 1977 — (Top) Sheriff's Posse in the Andover Fourth of July Parade. (Bottom L-R) County Co-ordinator Rod Tenney and Treasurer Dick Hanson accept check for Eagle Convalescent Home reimbursement from Rep. Bill Kidder. Merrimack County wastewater treatment plant which started in operation January.
(Ken Williams, Concord Monitor)



(Top, L-R) Commissioners McKenna and Spaulding accepting NACO Achievement Award for the county's nursing facilities. Patients in room of nursing home's new wing. (Tim Savard, Concord Monitor) (Bottom) Ribbon cutting ceremonies at opening of new J. Kenneth McLeod Wing of the nursing home.

Employees' Retirement	3,826	3,825
Supplies and Other Expenses	12,476	12,901
Meals for Inmates	34,471	34,471
Medical Services for Inmates	7,057	7,938
Occupancy, Heat and Lights	11,900	11,900
Communications	3,473	3,473
Maintenance and Repairs	6,443	6,400
Uniforms	1,694	1,694
Rehabilitation Expense	2,938	2,938
Insurance	8,692	8,439
Total Operating Expenditures	\$287,913	\$288,921

COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL FUND — COUNTY FARM
DETAILS OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977

	1977	
	Budget	Actual
Revenue		
Sale of Milk	\$ 45,000	\$ 56,651
Sale of Livestock	2,500	3,004
Sale of Produce	1,000	1,891
Sale of Food to Dietary	25,000	19,390
Miscellaneous Farm Income	1,000	4,595
Total Farm Revenue	\$ 74,500	\$ 85,531
Operating Expenditures		
Salaries	\$ 33,887	\$ 33,886
Social Security Taxes	1,983	1,982
Employees' Group Insurance	1,092	1,091
Employees' Retirement	850	847
Veterinary Fees	1,741	1,898
Breeding, Testing and Registration	1,020	1,067
Supplies and Other Expenses	2,150	2,284
Occupancy, Heat and Lights	400	400
Gas, Oil and Grease	2,461	2,460
Seed, Fertilizer and Spray	5,140	5,138
Feed	22,600	22,519
Bedding	450	484
Repairs to Buildings	450	507
Repairs to Equipment	3,650	4,068
Taxes	9,925	9,921
Rent	500	412
Insurance	4,316	4,277
Total Operating Expenditures	\$ 92,615	\$ 93,241

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS
RECIPIENT'S ACCOUNT NUMBER 30-1-007-007
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Available Funds, January 1, 1977		\$ 15,950
Add: Revenue		
Entitlements		
March 31, 1977	\$ 50,348	
June 30, 1977	50,348	
September 30, 1977	51,869	
December 31, 1977	56,747	
Total Entitlements	209,312	
Interest	3,383	
Total Revenue		212,695
Total Available Funds		228,645
Less: Expenditures		
Bond Principal Payments		
Nursing Home	50,000	
Administration Building	50,000	
Social Services Grant	50,000	
Guard Salaries, Corrections Department	58,000	
Public Notices	71	
Total Expenditures		208,071
Unencumbered Unexpended Fund Balance December 31, 1977		\$ 20,574

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANTI-RECESSION FISCAL ASSISTANCE (ARFA) FUNDS
RECIPIENT'S ACCOUNT NUMBER 30-1-007-007
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN AVAILABLE FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Available Funds, Beginning of Year	\$ None
Add: Revenue	
Quarterly Payments	\$ 4,725
Available for Obligation During Year	4,725
Less: Expenditures	4,725
Available Funds, End of Year	\$ None

**STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS INCURRED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

	Amount	Questioned Costs
General Government		
Administration, Welfare Salaries	\$ 4,725	\$ None

COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CAPITAL PROJECTS BOND FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977

	Total	Admn. Bld.	Two Hundred Bed Addition
Fund Balance, January 1, 1977	\$1,738,623	\$ 1,848	\$1,736,775
Receipts			
Proceeds from 10 year, 4.25% Bond Issued September 1, 1977, due Serially to September 1, 1987	600,000	—	600,000
Total Receipts	600,000	—	600,000
Total Receipts and Balance	2,338,623	1,848	2,336,775
Expenditures			
Contractors	1,506,489	—	1,506,489
Architects' Fees	49,130	—	49,130
Other	266,600	1,714	264,886
Total Expenditures	1,822,219	1,714	1,820,505
Fund Balance, December 31, 1977	\$ 516,404*	\$ 134	\$ 516,270
*Deposited as follows:			
Checking Accounts			
Concord National Bank		\$ 57,447	
New England Merchants National Bank		3,957	
			\$ 61,404
Savings Account			
New England Merchants National Bank			455,000
Fund Balance, December 31, 1977			\$ 516,404

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
GENERAL LONG-TERM DEBT
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1977**

ASSETS

Amount Required to be Raised in the Future for

Retirement of Debt

Public Improvement Bonds	
New Administration Building	\$ 800,000
County Nursing Home, Hospital Improvement	240,000
County Nursing Home, Two Hundred Bed Addition	4,950,000
County Nursing Home, Two Hundred Bed Addition Supplemental	600,000
Long-Term Notes	
Forty-Eight Bed Addition, County Nursing Home	140,000
TOTAL ASSETS, Total Amount Required to be Raised in the Future for Retirement of Debt	\$6,730,000

LIABILITIES

Bonds and Notes Payable

4.90% Public Improvement Bonds Payable	\$ 800,000
3.75% Public Improvement Bonds Payable	240,000
6.75% Five-Year Notes Payable, Concord National Bank	140,000
6.00% Public Improvement Bonds Payable	4,950,000
4.25% Public Improvement Bonds Payable	600,000

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$6,730,000

Debt Requirement for the Year Ended December 31, 1977:

	Total	Principal	Interest
Administration Building	\$ 89,200	\$ 50,000	\$ 39,200
Hospital Improvement	38,438	30,000	8,438
Forty-Eight Bed Addition	79,450	70,000	9,450
Two Hundred Bed Addition	572,000	275,000	297,000
Two Hundred Bed Addition	85,500	60,000	25,500
Total Debt Requirement	\$ 864,588	\$ 485,000	\$ 379,588

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Balance, January 1, 1977		\$ 8
Receipts		
1977 Appropriation, Merrimack County	\$ 67,809	
Other Income	12,649	
Total Receipts		80,458
Total Receipts and Balance		80,466

Disbursements

Forestry Agent	20,786
Agricultural Agent	16,227
4H Youth Development Agent I	13,100
Home Economist	13,415
4H Youth Development Agent II	11,217
Dairy Agent	2,580
Area Agent, Poultry Management	1,702

Total Disbursements

79,027

Balance, December 31, 1977, Checking Account,
Concord National Bank

\$ 1,439

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
SUPERIOR COURT
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Cash Balance, January 1, 1977

\$ 25,065

Receipts

Bail Posted	\$ 46,789
Bonds Posted	5,600
Civil Cases	7,189
Equity Cases	12,380
Printing	3,558
Fines	20,155
Fees	9,365

Printing Transcript Cases

8,541

State Credit

1,928

Postage Receipts

2,479

Total Receipts

117,984

Total Receipts and Balance

143,049

Disbursements

Clerk and Clerical Hire	37,541
Excess Monies Turned Over to Commissioners' Office	18,410
Cash Bail Returned	56,110
Cash Bonds Returned	600
Printing Expense	14,040
Postage Expense	1,112
Trustees' Deposits Returned	909
Other	41

Total Disbursements

128,763

Cash Balance, December 31, 1977*

\$ 14,286

*Balance comprised as follows:

Bail Held for Return	\$ 6,499
Bonds Held for Return	6,709
Printing Fees	751
Trustees' Deposits Held for Return	327

Total Cash Balance, December 31, 1977

\$ 14,286

MERRIMACK COUNTY REPORT

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT FUND
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1977**

ASSETS

County Nursing Home		
Basic Facility		
Building and Improvements	\$ 454,954	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>30,851</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		\$ 424,103
1967 Addition		
Building	570,000	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>163,875</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		406,125
Forty-Eight Bed Addition		
Building	350,000	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>24,062</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		325,938
Equipment		
Department Equipment	119,267	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>24,169</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		95,098
Two Hundred Bed Addition		
Building	6,091,370	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>79,313</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		6,012,057
Sewage Treatment Plant	200,000	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>2,500</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		197,500
Equipment and Furnishings	574,488	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>34,240</u>	
Net Depreciated Value		<u>540,248</u>
Total County Nursing Home		\$8,001,069
1975 Addition to County Administration Building		1,007,726
TOTAL ASSETS		\$9,008,795

FUND BALANCE

Fund Balance	\$9,008,795
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NOTE

No other historical cost values are available at this time for other county properties. These values should be reconstructed and included in subsequent reports.

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
AREA II LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING COUNCILS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Balance, January 1, 1977 \$ 3,168

Receipts

Construction and Carpentry Skills Training 763A1157	\$ 28,153	
Assistant County Attorney 76-IA-1219	13,180	
Dispatch Grant 76-IA-1314	8,129	
Additional Corrections Officer 76-IA-1130	5,352	
Summer Intern 77-IA-1654	2,639	
Evaluation of Offenders 75A-833	2,180	
Public Gaming Conference 77-IA-1756	873	
Communications Equipment 75A-894	469	
Miscellaneous Small Grants	441	
Trial Advocacy Seminar 76-IA-1841	3545	
Emergency Antenna 75-A-1757	348	
V.U. Panel 75A-1450	181	
Full-Time Deputy 75A-4738	101	
Total Receipts		62,401
Total Receipts and Balance		65,569

Disbursements

Construction and Carpentry Skills Training 763A1157	29,484	
Assistant County Attorney 76-IA-1219	13,180	
Dispatch Grant 76-IA-1314	8,129	
Additional Corrections Officer 76-IA-1130	5,352	
Evaluation of Offenders 75A-833	2,294	
Public Gaming Conference 77-IA-1756	919	
Female Detention Study 74-A-512	817	
Emergency Antenna 75-A-1757	464	
Miscellaneous Small Grants	406	
Trial Advocacy Seminar 76-IA-1841	374	
Increase Effectiveness of Correctional Rehabilitation 72A507	300	
Attendance at Sheriff's Institute 77-IA-1916	250	
V.U. Panel 75A-1450	191	
Communications Equipment 75A-894	88	
Overdraft Charge	5	
Total Disbursements		62,253

Balance, December 31, 1977, Concord National Bank,
Concord, New Hampshire

\$ 3,316

Fund Balance Composed as Follows:

Summer Intern 77-IA-1654	\$ 2,639
Construction and Carpentry Skills 74A-680	280
FPLC 74A-750	278
REG 76P-860	233
Full Time Deputy 75A9738	101
Evaluation of Offenders 75A-833	34

Miscellaneous	16	
Sheriff 74A-1133	(5)	
V.U. Panel 75A-145	(10)	
Attendance at Sheriff's Institute 76-IA-1916	(250)	
Balance, December 1, 1977		\$ 3,316

NOTE: Items in brackets to be reimbursed at a later date.

**COUNTY OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PATIENT FUNDS
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND FUND BALANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1977**

Balance, January 1, 1977 \$ 69,276

Receipts

(Includes some pension and social security payments,
gifts by families, relatives, and friends)

378,212

Total Receipts and Balance

447,488

Disbursements

(Includes transfers to nursing home to pay for patient
care, and patients' own personal needs)

375,639

Balance, December 31, 1977

\$ 71,849*

***Held as Follows:**

Patients' Petty Cash Accounts	\$ 2,717
Checking Account, Concord National Bank	69,132

Balance, December 31, 1977

\$ 71,849**

****Composed as Follows:**

Patient Burial Accounts	\$ 17,675
Patient Personal Accounts	54,174

Balance, December 31, 1977

\$ 71,849

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounts of the County are maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting with revenue not received and expenditures not paid being accrued at year end, except accrued interest on outstanding indebtedness, which is paid together with matured indebtedness from appropriations of the following year. Inventories are not recorded as assets but are expensed in the year acquired. Maintenance, operating and office supplies are not inventoried. For budget report purposes, capital expenditures for property, plant, equipment, renewals and betterments are expensed as incurred, as are expenditures for maintenance and repairs.

2. Pension

The County provides for pension benefits to substantially all employees through a contributory retirement system under New Hampshire law. The law prescribes the formula for computing retirement allowances and presently does not permit advance funding of pension liabilities. Retirement allowances are paid from County funding and employee contributions. Employee contributions constitute an annuity savings fund from which a portion of the retirement allowance is paid. Pension expense for the year totaled \$56,523, determined on an actuarial basis. The unfunded past service liability of the entire retirement system was approximately 19 million dollars (approximately 17 million dollars state liability) and is being amortized over a twenty-year period terminating in 1993. The value of vested benefits was not determinable.

3. New Two Hundred Bed Addition to County Home

On July 15, 1975, Merrimack County issued a \$5,500,000 Bond Issue at 6.00% Interest, repayable at \$275,000 a year over a twenty-year period commencing July 15, 1976. The proceeds of this bond issue were used to construct a two hundred bed addition to the County Home, which opened in the fall of 1977. An additional \$600,000 Bond Issue was issued on September 1, 1977, the proceeds of which will be used to renovate the old nursing home.

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

Merrimack County in account with Henry Dowst, Jr., Clerk
(January Term, 1977 - January 1, 1977 through March 31, 1977)

CREDIT COUNTY

Entry fees	\$4,392.00	
Fees	2,308.21	
Preparation of Reserved Cases	150.00	
Fines collected in State cases	5,390.00	
Forfeiture of bail	330.00	
Misc. cash received	30.31	
Xerox copies	20.70	
		\$12,621.22

CHARGE COUNTY

Allowance - Clerk and Deputy Clerk	\$9,244.43	
Misc. cash paid out (bank charge)	2.00	
		9,246.43

Reimbursed to County Treasurer	\$3,374.79
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May 19, 1977 Approved.

William F. Batchelder
Presiding Justice

Merrimack County in account with Henry Dowst, Jr., Clerk
(April Term, 1977 - April 1, 1977 through August 31, 1977)

CREDIT COUNTY

Entry fees	\$9,865.00
Fees	4,159.16
Preparation Reserved Cases	250.00
Fines collected in State cases	9,255.00
Rules of Court	710.00
Misc. cash received	25.62
IBM refund	3.61
Xerox copies (Eddy v. Frye)	550.00

MERRIMACK COUNTY REPORT

Transcripts	2,831.00	
Bondsman's fees	200.00	
		<hr/>
		\$27,849.39

CHARGE COUNTY

Allowance - Clerk and Deputy Clerk	\$15,939.31	
Fee refund	2.00	
		<hr/>
		\$15,941.31

Reimbursed to County Treasurer	\$11,908.08
October 5, 1977 Approved.	

William F. Cann
Presiding Justice

Merrimack County in account with Henry Dowst, Jr., Clerk
(September Term, 1977 - Sept. 1, 1977 through Dec. 31, 1977)

CREDIT COUNTY

Entry fees	\$7,240.00	
Fees	2,897.28	
Preparation Reserved Cases	175.00	
Fines collected in State cases	5,510.00	
Rules of Court	155.00	
Misc. cash received	44.85	
Transcripts	142.00	
		<hr/>
		\$16,164.13

CHARGE COUNTY

Allowance - Clerk and Deputy Clerk	\$13,021.84	
Misc. cash paid out (fee refund)	15.00	
		<hr/>
		\$13,036.84

Reimbursed to County Treasurer	\$3,127.29
January 19, 1978 Approved.	

William R. Johnson
Presiding Justice

REPORT OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

The following is a statistical summary of the activities of our office in 1977. The greatest headway was made in the disposition of cases appealed from the district courts to superior court. The backlog of five hundred and ninety-two cases was cut to one hundred and fifty-seven cases. A comparable gain was not achieved in the felony cases where the backlog was cut by only two cases. The civil matters handled by this office and URESA actions continue to increase.

FELONY CASES

Pending as of January 1, 1977		192
Opened during 1977		195
Closed during 1977 by:		
a. Pleas	100	
b. Nol-Pros	84	
c. Trial	13	
		<hr/>
		197
Pending as of December 31, 1977		<hr/> 190

APPEALED CASES

Pending as of January 1, 1977		592
Opened during 1977		344
Closed during 1977 by:		
a. Plea	87	
b. Nol-Pros	207	
c. Trial	38	
d. Other	8	
e. Remand	439	
		<hr/>
		779
Pending as of December 31, 1977		<hr/> 157

CIVIL CASES

Pending as of January 1, 1977		6
Opened during 1977		56
Closed during 1977		27
		<hr/>
Pending as of December 31, 1977		35

URES A CASES

Pending as of January 1, 1977		--
Opened during 1977		155
Closed during 1977		127
		<hr/>
Pending as of December 31, 1977		28

John C. Boeckeler
Merrimack County Attorney

REPORT OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY SHERIFF

Having completed 8 years as Sheriff of Merrimack County, I am pleased with the progress the department has made.

The Merrimack County Dispatch Center continues to provide a telephone and radio dispatch service to several communities in the County, along with one ambulance service and two federal agencies. The dispatchers, both full and part-time, have been commended on numerous occasions for the outstanding service they have given.

In the last 8 years the workload in the complex areas of civil process and court responsibility has increased tremendously. We have had to employ at least four full-time bailiffs to maintain security and carry out the orders of the courts.

The overall responsibilities of the Sheriff's Office have increased considerably from the handling of daily transfers of prisoners to the solution of major crimes. We are always available to any town when assistance is needed and will continue to provide support to improve law enforcement services to all.

Education of our personnel has been a major goal in recent years. All members of the agency have completed the State certification requirements; and most recently, I have completed the National Sheriff's Institute held in Los Angeles, California. All full-time and Special Deputies employed in the department completed a special nine-week training session. This seminar was also open to and attended by interested jail personnel and other local law enforcement officers.

A special honor was bestowed on the Sheriff's Department this year when the Merrimack County Law Enforcement Officers named Chief Deputy Larry Thomas the Outstanding Officer of the Year.

Aided by the support of the Merrimack County Delegation, the Commissioners the County Attorney and surrounding law enforcement personnel, we look forward to continued progress in combatting crime and improving the criminal justice system in Merrimack County.

**RONALD D. DANIELS, JR.,
SHERIFF**



Swearing in of Deputies by Sheriff Daniels. (L to R) Sheriff Daniels; Deputy George Fitts; Deputy Bonnie Story; Deputy Dana Smith; Deputy David Eastman; Deputy Marie Cusson. (Rear) Deputy William Shackford and Chief Deputy Larry Thomas.

**MERRIMACK COUNTY OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

In late August 1977, Merrimack County inaugurated the first county civil defense program in the State of New Hampshire. Previously the 234 towns and cities across the state were administered from the state civil defense office. With the introduction of the Merrimack County operation, the 27 communities within the county jurisdiction will receive the dedicated attention of a full-time office.

The goal of the Merrimack County Emergency Preparedness Office is the increased preparedness posture of the communities it serves. Our preparedness posture is our ability to cope with all disasters, natural or nuclear, and must consist of a plan to execute and an ability to mobilize resources. The newly developed Merrimack County Basic Emergency Plan does this by defining and planning for the use of local resources in a cohesive, readily-implemented manner to deal with emergencies. Resources have been identified and a communications system is being organized to put it all in motion.

Only four months old at the end of 1977, the Merrimack County emergency preparedness program has succeeded in increasing awareness of the disaster potential in our communities and the capacity, or lack of capacity, we presently have to cope with emergencies. The plans and programs of this office have already been of some immediate value to our county and can promise a future of increased aid and assistance.

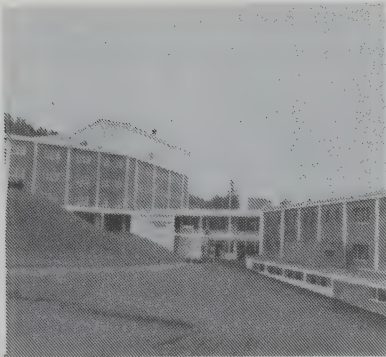
Justus D. Reynolds,
COORDINATOR

MERRIMACK COUNTY NURSING HOME

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

To the Merrimack County Commissioners:

The Annual Report of the Merrimack County Home for 1977 is primarily concerned with the completion and occupancy of the J. Kenneth McLeod Building. It is, therefore, presented in pictorial form.



Standing quietly, the main entrance awaits the crowd that will officially open the J. Kenneth McLeod Building. With two years of construction work behind special thanks must be given to Richard Cadarette, Clerk of the Works. Through his guidance, the problems have been solved, the building is completed, and most important of all, a project was maintained.



Delegation Chairman, William Kidder, presents the flag to Commissioner Edna McKenna. Our thanks to the Delegation for its support of the staffing levels which have been established.



Architect, Guy K. C. Wilson, makes his presentation. Mr. Wilson's understanding of the needs of the patients does help in dealing with the various problems of such a large institution. Through his hard work, the functioning parts of the building have been completed.



Frank Cote of Harvey Construction, presents the symbolic key to Administrator, Robert F. Lethbridge. The working relationship with the construction company was excellent. Their understanding of the continuing needs of the patients and their willingness to fit the schedule around patient needs are hereby acknowledged. My thanks are offered to them for an excellent job.



Commissioner Albert Ayotte admires the plaque which is in the lobby of the new building. A study of the plaque reveals the building committee names to all these people who put in long, hard hours in the primary stages of this building. Thanks offered for such careful planning which gives to the people of Merrimack County a first rate nursing home.



Standing ready to receive the first patient, the Nursing Home staff has been provided with the finest of equipment to perform their tasks efficiently. The guarantee of the staff to the patients of Merrimack County is that the patients will continue to receive a high level of quality care which they have become accustomed to.



The dining room was enlarged and a new dining area added. Real special tribute must be paid to the dining room staff for their cooperation in maintaining a kitchen that for several months had no walls and continually presented problems of dust and dirt. Here, again, the finest of equipment has been provided so that we can keep up with the ever increasing dietary needs of the patients.



Finally, Dr. J. Kenneth McLeod cuts the ribbon and formally opens the new building. Dr. McLeod made his last public appearance in the dedication of the building. It was a fit closing for a long and distinguished career as the County Home Physician. Having gone from us, Dr. McLeod cannot present a personal part of this report, however, he is all of the report, as evidenced by the dedication of the building to him.

The Administration and Staff pledge to the tax payers of Merrimack County the most efficient and economical use of the nursing home you have provided, with an eye to every increasing concern for our patients. There is also a pledge to maintain and upgrade the quality of life for those to whom the key word and title is "HOME."

This report would not be complete without a word of thanks to Mrs. Mary E. Jelley, R.N. and Mrs. Marjorie Burris, R.N. Without their support, their insight, and the ability to communicate with the staff and patients, the completion of the new building would not have been possible.

Robert F. Lethbridge,
Administrator

REPORT OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY HOME AUXILIARY

The Merrimack County Home Auxiliary has a membership of 35 members, with an average attendance of 18 members. We devote approximately 2,500 hours during the year to visiting patients and residents, making favors, making cancer dressing and working on fund raising projects.

The Auxiliary invites groups and organizations in the county to sponsor a Birthday Party each month for a collective celebration of monthly birthdays. Our thanks go to several granges, church groups and clubs for their cooperation. They provide entertainment, refreshments and cards for the patients and residents.

For various holidays during the year we made candy tray favors for all the patients and residents at the Home. At Christmas, the group baked about 3,000 cookies which we packaged and decorated with colorful ties and candy canes for distribution. Table decorations in the cafeteria, which are changed each month, are provided by the Auxiliary as well as other miscellaneous decorations such as the begonias on the cafeteria windowsills.

On the first Wednesday of December we hold a "Christmas Store." Merchants and friends in the county donate articles so that the patients can purchase gifts for their families and friends at minimal cost. Carts with gift items are taken to patients who are unable to leave their rooms, and purchases are gift wrapped upon request.

Some of the other activities in which the Auxiliary participated included a booth at the Hopkinton Fair, food sales, and helping patients attend activities at the Home. Some of our funds are used to provide a bus to take approximately 35 patients on a foliage trip to the White Mountains. In addition, this year the Auxiliary purchased a spinet piano and piano lamp; a mural for the back stage wall in the Recreation room and a Korean lilac which was placed at the Main Entrance in memory of Virginia Hutchinson, past Recreation Director.

The Auxiliary intends to grow, to keep up with the changes and increase in patients at the Home and we thank Mr. Lethbridge and his staff for their cooperation and support over the years.

Dorothy Stevens,
PRESIDENT

REPORT OF THE CHAPLAIN OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY HOME

The following clergymen held chapel services during 1977:

Calvin Wright, Pembroke Congregational Church
Captain Fred Marshall, Concord Salvation Army
James McLeod, Hill Village Community Church
Everett Moore, Concord Advent Christian Church
Allen Goodwin, First Methodist Church, Penacook
Frank Clay, Central Baptist Church, Franklin
Stephen Earle, Assembly of God Church, Concord
Wm. Daniels, Immanuel Community Church, Concord
Franklin Parker, Chichester
Joseph Holland, Voice of Faith Chapel, Northfield
John Johnson, West Concord Congregational Church
James Jensen, Loudon Ridge Advent Christian Church
Russell McConnell, Concord Church of Christ
Walter Holder, First Baptist Church, Concord
Stephen Press, Concord Church of God
Lafayette Pinckney, Contoocook Baptist Church
Ralph Maxwell, Voice of Faith Chapel, Northfield

As in previous years, the chaplain held communion services the first Sunday of each month. Both the nursing staff and the recreation department cooperated in bringing residents who wished to attend to all services. When requested, communion services were also held at bedside by residents unable to attend chapel services. In addition, Mrs. Jean Henderson of the Recreation Department held Bible readings every Monday at 1:30 p.m., a practice which the chaplain hopes to continue in 1978.

At the ribbon cutting ceremonies for the official opening of the J. Kenneth McLeod Building, Catholic Chaplain Morrisette of St. Paul's Church, Franklin gave the dedication and Chaplain Lyons the benediction. The latter also offered the opening prayer at the annual Christmas party sponsored by the N. H. Business and Professional Women's Club at which a stained glass window for the chapel was given in honor of Mrs. Bessie Gray for her 40 years of service to the residents of the County Home.

Paul Lyons,
CHAPLAIN

REPORT OF THE PHYSICIAN OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY NURSING HOME

The people of Merrimack County should look upon the Merrimack County Nursing Home with great pride. Their County Commissioners, legislative delegation and the nursing home administration and staff deserve credit for making this facility a reality.

The additions and renovations completed this year at the home, together with the skilled nursing care, daily visits by the attending physician and the physical therapy/recreational department, have gone a long way to eliminate the need for extended hospital treatment for the majority of our infirm elderly, saving the taxpayers thousands of dollars. Other changes in 1977 which have contributed to the increased treatment capacity of the home included contracting with the pharmacist to spend two days per week at the nursing home to give us better control of medication, and the employment of a full-time physical therapist, whose services have proven invaluable. Since we have no diagnostic facilities here, however, patients are transferred to New London Hospital, Franklin Regional Hospital and Concord Hospital for injuries, illnesses and when emergency treatment is required. Cooperation between the nursing home and the county's three hospitals and their staffs has been excellent.

The Professional Standard Review Organization (P.S.R.O.) of the New Hampshire Foundation for Medical Care started a practice of utilization reviews of all the patients in 1977. These reviews will be conducted two times a year to evaluate the level of care given in terms of the care paid for.

State and federal regulations continue to make procedural changes necessary which require more and more records and paperwork. Unfortunately, this takes away from patient contact somewhat.

In closing I would like to bring attention to the dedicated efforts of Mrs. Mary E. Jelley, R.N. and the late Dr. J. Kenneth McLeod for their many years of guidance and tutoring which have been so valuable in caring for our county's elderly.

Robert J. Morin, M.D.
CHIEF OF STAFF

REPORT OF THE MERRIMACK COUNTY FARM MANAGER

There were no major changes in the farming operation this year.

In May we plowed and reseeded the land from the Jail to the Sewage Treatment Plant as this land had been all dug up when the sewage lines were installed for the Plant. The eight-acre field was planted with clover and alfalfa. This should produce a large amount of hay for the next few years.

We planted the usual amount of gardens. Although we had heavy damage from woodchucks on the cabbage and squash, the rest of the gardens did well. Because we planted an early and late variety of sweet corn, we were able to pick it daily for the home from late July to September. Potatoes also did exceptionally well this year: 1600 bushels were harvested from 2½ acres.

Our dairy herd showed another increase in milk production. We now have a 15,000 pound-per-cow milk production record according to our Dairy Herd Improvement records. The records also showed that the Merrimack County Herd had the largest production increase of any herd in the county over the last three years. Because of this increase in milk production, our bulk tank was not large enough to hold the extra milk. After submitting bids to six dealers, a new 600 gallon bulk tank was purchased and installed in June. The new tank is much easier to clean and it cools the milk much faster, giving us a much better product to market.

Walter R. Lampron,
FARM MANAGER

MERRIMACK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**REPORT OF THE CORRECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR**

In 1977 the Department of Corrections processed 512 inmates from various courts and law enforcement agencies throughout Merrimack County. There were 363 unsentenced males and females awaiting further court action. The House of Corrections received 149 court committed men and women. The average daily census was 18 for the House of Correction and 20 for the Jail.

Female offenders continue to pose a problem as the physical layout of the institution is not properly equipped to hold such offenders. The female census was up from 1976 by 11 inmates. In 1976, there were 22 female offenders confined and in 1977, there were 33 confined. We were able to transfer some to a neighboring county, thus eliminating the need for Matrons' supervision which is costly.

Plans are presently being made to make adequate professional space available for Dr. Morin. The Doctor is now required to hold sick call and conduct physical examinations in the Supervisor's Office. This area is very busy and with the telephones and radios, it is next to impossible to conduct the medical work required in this office.

A new Rehabilitation Coordinator, John Lord, was hired in 1977. Under his direction Merrimack County has instituted a work release program for inmates who earn it, which has been very successful to date.

My special thanks to the Corrections staff who have made every effort to carry out the high standards of Merrimack County.

William R. Potter,
ADMINISTRATOR

**MERRIMACK COUNTY
HOUSE OF CORRECTION AND JAIL**

CRIMES COMMITTED IN 1977

Type of Crime	Number
Armed Robbery	1
Arson	4
Assault	23
Attempted Murder	1
A.W.O.L.	1
Bench Warrant	2
Burglary	26
Concealment of Merchandise	2
Conspiracy	3
Contempt of Court	21
Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor	6
Criminal Liability	1
Criminal Mischief	21
Criminal Restraint	1
Criminal Threatening	6
Criminal Trespassing	13
Damage to Private Property	1
Dangerous Sex Offender	1
Delivery of Articles to State Prison Inmate	1
Disobeying a Police Officer	2
Drunk	1
Disorderly Conduct	16
D.W.I.	53
Drug Offenses	38
Endangering Welfare of Child	1
Escape Offenses	5
Failure to Appear	5
Failure to Pay Taxes	1
Forgery	2
Fraudulent Acts	2
Fugitive from Justice	7
Habitual Offender	1
Hold for U. S. Marshall	3
Hindering Apprehension	1
Intoxication	24
Issuing Bad Checks	5
Kidnapping	6
Leash Law Violation	1

Leaving Scene of Accident	1
Motor Vehicle Violations	45
Negligent Homicide	1
Non-Support	20
Notice of Change of Name and Address	1
Murder, 1st Degree	1
Possession of Firearm by Felon	2
Possession of Hypodermic Needle	1
Possession of Stolen Property	4
Prohibited Acts	3
Possession of Loaded Revolver without Permit	1
Operating without Hawkers or Peddlers License	1
Possession by Aliens	1
Receiving Stolen Property	11
Reckless Conduct	4
Reckless Operation	6
Resisting Arrest	14
Robbery	9
Sexual Assault	6
Taking without Owners Consent	2
Theft	58
Theft and/or Possession of Explosives	2
Transients	1
Unauthorized Use of Propelled Vehicles	3
Unpaid Fines	5
Violation of Court Order	1
Violation of Parole	1
Violation of Probation	2
Capias	2
Four hour Hold at Subject's Request	1
Twenty-four Hour Hold	2

**INMATES COMMITTED FROM VARIOUS COURTS
IN 1977**

<i>Court</i>	Number
Concord District	106
F. B. I.	2
Franklin District	157
Henniker District	11
Hillsborough	1

Hooksett District	23
Loudon District	14
Merrimack Superior	69
New London District	15
Pittsfield Municipal	12
Rockingham County	2
State Prison	2
Sullivan County Superior	1
U. S. Marshall	4
Various Law Enforcement Agencies	4
Grafton County Superior	1
U. S. Military authorities	1

INMATES PROCESSED IN 1977

House of Correction	149
Jail	363

Total - 512

Inmates on January 1, 1977	29
Inmates Admitted in 1977	486
Inmates Discharged in 1977	480
Inmates on December 31, 1977	32

REPORTS OF COUNTY AFFILIATED AGENCIES

MERRIMACK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Cooperative Extension Service was established in 1914 as an informal educational system, the "off campus" educational arm of the Land Grant University (UNH) operating in every County and territory of the United States.

It is funded cooperatively with County, State and Federal dollars.

The Merrimack County office is staffed by six county agents: an Agriculture Agent; a Home Economist; two 4-H Youth Development Agents; and two Forestry Agents. In addition, County activities are supplemented by a State Poultry Specialist and an Area Dairy Agent, both housed in our County office.

The programs implemented by the Agents serve a wide segment of Merrimack County's population.

Educational programming and informational needs are determined by County residents, County Advisory Boards and the County Extension Service Council working with the County Agents and State Extension Specialists.

Technological information from the State University (UNH) and the United States Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.) is disseminated throughout the County by the Extension Agent team by way of educational workshops and courses, a weekly radio program, newspaper articles, 4-H Clubs and activities, Home Economics Community Groups and public programs, visits to farmers and woodland owners, newsletters and office visits—to name only a few. This reciprocal arrangement among Merrimack County, our University System and the United States Department of Agriculture results in a unique and effective service to County residents.

Merrimack County Extension programs are available to all persons regardless of race, creed, color, sex, ethnic background or economic status.

The Merrimack County Extension Service office is located at 21 Green Street, Concord, N. H. on the second and third floors.

VIRGINA CLARK

MERRIMACK COUNTY
EXTENSION SERVICE
COORDINATOR

**MERRIMACK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**

The Department of Employment and Training (M.C.D.E.T.) during the calendar year 1977 served 998 individuals in the county through CETA. The Department expended some \$1,221,000 dollars on training and employment services through a grant from the Department of Labor under a contract with the N. H. Office of Manpower Affairs.

In training programs under Title I, M.C.D.E.T. served 312 individuals, placing approximately fifty percent in permanent positions. Almost thirty percent returned to school, entered the military or had other positive results from the program, while twenty percent were dropouts. The dropout rate during the last quarter, however, has dropped significantly to half the twenty percent of the previous three quarters. Approximately \$436,000 was spent for these services.

The Title I program for training has made significant progress in increasing Classroom Training opportunities for individuals while the On-the Job Training program has doubled its enrollment prospects for 1978. These two programs provide the participants on CETA with the academic skills and the job experience to become competitive members of the labor force in Merrimack County.

In Public Service programs (Titles II and VI), a total of 361 people were given jobs not to exceed one year. The program expenditures totalled \$621,000 for the year. Public Service positions were founded in many local towns, cities, county and state positions. M.C.D.E.T. also funded several school districts and a variety of non-profit community organizations providing service to the residents of Merrimack County.

In July, 1977, the County received an additional grant of almost two million dollars to provide public service projects funds to the public and non-profit agencies in the county. Over one hundred persons are now enrolled in this program with a projected enrollment of over two hundred by early spring. The purpose of the program is designed to give local towns, cities and non-profit agencies grants for up to one year to provide new services or expand existing services where funds are not adequate to meet the area's total needs. It is also designed to serve the long-term unemployed individual (over fifteen weeks) who has not worked due to the state of the economy and/or the market's inability to utilize a person's talents and

education.

The balance of 325 jobs were allocated to the Summer Youth Program for youth between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one. Approximately \$164,000 was spent on the program, which focused on training youth in the transition from school to work, and for those out of school it presented career options that would assist them in securing a permanent job.

The CETA program, overall, has served the low income, unemployed population of our county. During 1978, we anticipate that our funds will double and that we should provide an increased portion of our residents who meet the eligibility requirements with training and employment services. The final expenditures reflect an operational cost of \$163,000 or thirteen percent of all monies received. The balance of \$1,058,000 went directly to participants for training and employment salaries and allowances.

Daniel J. Seibert
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONCORD REGIONAL VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION HOMEMAKER PROGRAM

During calendar year 1977, the Homemaker Program provided 7,919 hours of service to the residents of Merrimack County. Ninety percent of those service hours were given to senior citizens, who for various reasons are no longer capable of taking care of all of their personal and household needs. This service enables them to remain in their own houses rather than enter an institution, which most of our elderly do not want to do. The remaining 10 percent of services were given to families which were in temporary need of a homemaker because of hospitalization of a family member. Presently, the Program services 249 individuals and/or families. Homemakers carry out functions which include shopping, doing the laundry, preparing meals, light house-cleaning, running errands and giving some personal care.

During the last year we have been able to add one full-time Homemaker to our staff making a total of eight Homemakers for the

entire county. An additional full-time Homemaker position has been budgeted for the new program year.

The Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association is grateful to the Merrimack County Delegation for their continued support of the County's Homemaker Program.

Gabriela Espenshade,
DIRECTOR

**CENTRAL N. H. COMMUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC.**

Central New Hampshire Community Mental Health Services, Inc. is a private, non-profit comprehensive mental health center serving Merrimack County. It provides Inpatient, Partial Hospitalization, Outpatient, twenty-four hour Emergency, and Consultation and Education Services. It also operates the Concord Development Center, a program for developmentally delayed infants and children, and a Resocialization Program for clients released from the New Hampshire Hospital.

Services are provided at the Central Office in downtown Concord and at three branch offices in Franklin, Henniker and New London. Services are also provided to inpatients at the Concord Hospital, Franklin Hospital and New London Hospital.

Fees for services may be discounted according to a client's income and size of family.

Reimbursement for services is sought from Health Insurance, Medicaid and Medicare.

In 1977 the Mental Health Center served a new high of 2,694 clients with direct therapy. Altogether, 31,398 units of service were provided in the various locations and programs. Problems treated included depression, anxiety, confusion, emotional crises, inter-personal problems and learning disabilities.

Services of the Center have been extended through contractual arrangements with Concord, Franklin and Kearsarge Visiting Nurse Associations. These home based services are a valuable extension of the regular treatment program.

Terje Reinertsen

**MERRIMACK COUNTY
RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Merrimack County Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is to create meaningful volunteer opportunities for older county residents. It gives them a chance to participate more fully in the life of their communities so that once again they may consider themselves productive, needed members of society. The value of their activities to Merrimack County's non-profit agencies is inestimable. In 1977 alone, 351 RSVP volunteers contributed a total of 43,401 hours to 81 of the County's agencies. If we conservatively estimate the average value of their services at \$3 an hour, their economic worth to their communities totals \$130,203 in just one year!

Even more importantly, the County's older citizens are being offered a meaningful role in their community: an opportunity to return to something, rather than retire from something. Volunteer work lends purpose and meaning to their lives, thereby preventing or alleviating the problems of low self-esteem that so often accompany feeling of uselessness and emptiness.

Although volunteers are never paid for their service, RSVP is supportive of them in regard to transportation, meals, insurance coverage and recognition. The cost of transporting them to their volunteer work, or reimbursing those who drive, is skyrocketing. Although monetary restrictions have already curbed our expansion and outreach efforts, the County's increased support will allow us to continue most of our present services to the County's elderly.

If you know of any County resident over 60 who may benefit from involvement in RSVP or any non-profit group which may benefit from the varied services of RSVP volunteers, please help them by giving us a call at 224-3452.

Judith Ann Hess
DIRECTOR



COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

The Community Action Program continued to provide a wide variety of services to residents of every town and city in Merrimack County in 1977. Services were provided through a network of outreach offices located in Concord, Franklin, Suncook and Warner, with additional outreach office hours being held in nearly every town as demand warranted.

There were over 14,000 participants in Community Action programs which included: Elderly Nutrition, Meals-on-wheels, Head Start, Day Care, Summer Youth Recreation, Rent-a-Kid, Carpentry Training, Shopping Assistance, Family Planning, Information and Referral, Housing Assistance, Fuel Loans, Winterization, Food Stamp Assistance, Operation Green Thumb and Transportation and Food Buying Clubs.

In addition, two major programs were started in 1977. One, Rural Home Repair will furnish home repair services averaging \$800 in materials cost for approximately 19 houses of low income families each year for three years. The other, the Senior Companion Program, provides income assistance for needy senior citizens and visiting services to homebound and institutionalized persons. A total of 84 Merrimack County residents received visiting services, and 27 Merrimack County senior citizens participated as volunteers.

The Meals-on-Wheels program and senior citizen transportation programs are of particular interest to Merrimack County. Approximately 21,000 meals-on-wheels were served to Merrimack County senior citizens. This was an increase of approximately 3,500 meals over 1976. In addition, the congregate meals program served nearly 31,000 meals during 1976 - an increase of nearly 9,000 meals. A new Meals-on-Wheels route was established this year in Concord and the Franklin area route was expanded to serve Andover. As for the Senior Citizens transportation program, the Merrimack County rural routes, which link the smaller towns to Concord, provided over 7,000 trips to Merrimack County senior residents. The Franklin Intra-City route provided over 5,000 trips. Senior citizens use these routes to go to medical appointments, shop for food and numerous other activities that contribute to an active life.

Community Action is grateful for the direct support and the

cooperation of Merrimack County in providing services to the people of Merrimack County.

Richard E. Kelley,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MERRIMACK COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Merrimack County Conservation District has been promoting conservation programs and providing technical services to landowners and users in the county for the past 31 years. The program is geared to offering on-site technical advice and assistance for the planning of proper land use to prevent soil erosion and drainage problems.

This past year over 400 on-site investigations were made by Soil Conservation Service technicians in assisting individuals with solving one or more conservation problems. Some thirty farm owners were assisted with the development of complete conservation plans for their property.

These plans include the necessary conservation measures needed to protect and improve the land resources to meet the owners needs, as well as measures to protect our soil resources for future generations.

A number of towns required and received technical assistance with soil and water resource information. In addition, the towns of Hill, Northfield and Franklin were given on-site technical assistance

with specific drainage and erosion control projects.

County funds used for secretarial purposes have enabled the district to further fulfill its role of service to residents of the County. This financial support, together with countless hours of voluntary work by the 5-member supervisory board, has resulted in a greater awareness of the need for conservation of the soil and water resources in Merrimack County.

Robert Hibbard, Chairman
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DIRECTORY

ADMINISTRATION

Merrimack County Administration Building	
163 North Main Street	
Concord, New Hampshire	03301
Commissioner's Office	228-0331
Registry of Deeds	228-0101
Registry of Probate	224-9589
Welfare Supervisor	225-5445
Merrimack County Co-Operative Extension	
21 Green Street	
Concord, New Hampshire	03301
	225-5505
Merrimack County Courthouse	
163 North Main Street	
Concord, New Hampshire	03301
Clerk of Superior Court	225-5501
County Attorney	228-0529
Sheriff's Office	225-5451
Merrimack County House of Correction	
Box 9	
Boscawen, New Hampshire	03301
	796-2107
Merrimack County Nursing Home	
Box 9	
Boscawen, New Hampshire	03301
	796-2168
Civil Preparedness Coordinator	796-2168

AFFILIATED SERVICES

Belknap-Merrimack Community Action	
93 N. State Street, P.O. Box 1016	
Concord, New Hampshire	03301
	225-3295
Central N. H. Community Mental Health	
5 Market Lane	
Concord, New Hampshire	03301
	228-1551

Homemaker Program		
Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Assoc.		
1 Thompson Street, JFK Apts.		
Concord, New Hampshire	03301	224-4093
Merrimack County Conservation District		
55 Pleasant Street, Box 1378		
Rm. 329, Federal Building		
Concord, New Hampshire	03301	225-5931
Merrimack County Department of		
Employment and Training		
15 Green Street		
Concord, New Hampshire	03301	225-5452
Retired Senior Volunteer Program		
20 South Main Street		
Concord, New Hampshire	03301	224-3452

HISTORY:

The Merrimack County Nursing Home has been in existence since approximately 1870.

In 1890, the first residents were accepted in the present complex. In the early 1920's, the series of additions was begun. Continual work was done through the middle 1930's. In 1965, an ongoing program of renovations was begun. A new Laundry/Boiler room was completed, followed in 1967 by a new kitchen, Dining Room, and 68-bed addition.

The early 1970's saw the Boscawen water supply brought to the building. In 1975, the North Branch was completed and in 1977 the 200-bed J. Kenneth McLeod addition.

The nursing home, as it is now known, began as the "poor farm" where debtors were sent to work off their debts. It is now a first-class nursing home, presenting a total range of programs so that the residents and patients receive the best of physical, mental, and spiritual care.

COVER PHOTO: Entrance to new J. Kenneth McLeod Wing of the Merrimack County Nursing Home.